

## MEET THE VMPS

Learn more about our Veteran Missionaries and where they are now.

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## LEGACY LIBRARY

A unique way to look back at God's faithfulness over many decades.

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VOL. 83 | NO. 6

JUNE 2023

BFMNOW.ORG

# BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

## bfm NEWS & REPORTS

*Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world*

## MEET YOUR VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS BENEFICIARIES OF YOUR "FOUNDERS MONTH OFFERINGS"

We are frequently asked: "What are you doing to continue giving our Veteran Missionaries assistance, especially financial assistance, in their senior years? How do you assist them? Through what means do you assist them? How can I help assist them?"

The short answer to that question for those who served long enough to vest into our traditional retirement/pension plan is: "We continue to honor and assist them by giving them a monthly 'service pension' for the remainder of their lives – and for which spouse may outlive the other."

This is just a small way we can honor them and show our love and appreciation to them for the years of service they gave to Christ in partnership with BFM.

Many of you have known our **Veteran Missionary Pensioners** for decades. You have not only known them, but you have loved them, fellowshiped with them, served with them, hosted them in your churches and in your homes, and have contributed to their missionary support.

We still have six current Veteran Missionary Pensioners to whom we are giving this honor:

- Asa and Lucia Bratcher
- Bobby Creiglow (Betty is with the Lord)
- Harold and Ursula Draper
- Paul and Wanda Hatcher
- Sheridan and Anita Stanton
- Wanda Turner (Richard is with the Lord)

[Click on their names to learn more about their missionary service and where they are now.]

The "Veteran Missionary Pensioner" account is not funded through the regular monthly offerings given to BFM, but rather through a separate investment account that is established for that purpose.

Currently, every month, there is a disbursement of \$11,590.00 to fund their service pensions. That amount, even on a good month, is double the amount of growth we receive on the investment

base in that account.

*Would you help us with this expression of our love for them?* When you designate your offerings for 'Veteran Missionaries Pension' or for 'Founder's Month Offering' [they are the same], they will be applied toward the continuing and on-going financial honor and support of these faithful life-long servants of Christ.

*Your missionaries and their families have served and sacrificed greatly on your behalf during their productive years. Please make a small financial sacrifice for your missionaries in their senior years by giving to the Founders Month Fund.*

And, there's MORE you can do to encourage them! Pray for them! Reach out to them through every means you can (call, write, email), and let them know you still appreciate them and their service. They would love to hear from you personally, or from your Sunday School class, or your church's Pastor/ leadership.

Thank you for sharing with them!

You can make a secure donation online with a check or credit card.

Just click the "Give" tab on our homepage at [www.bfmnow.org](http://www.bfmnow.org). Click here to give now or you can mail your offering to:

BFM, c/o George Sledd  
P.O. Box 471280  
Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1280

*And, would you prayerfully consider making your gift toward our Pensioners recurring? Our disbursements of \$11,590 toward supplying their modest service pensions recur every month!*

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Hatcher - page 1  
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**PAUL & WANDA  
HATCHER**

*Paul and Wanda Hatcher served the Lord in partnership with BFM in Brazil for over 40 years.*

Paul grew up in Manaus, Brazil in the John and Alta Hatcher family. After marrying Wanda and pastoring here in the U.S., they returned to Manaus to serve in the Tabernacle Baptist Church. When John and Alta transitioned their church-planting ministry to the states in the south, Paul assumed the pastorate and leadership of Tabernacle Baptist Church. The church experienced phenomenal growth under his leadership and numerous churches were planted in the neighborhoods of Manaus.

In still later years, even while they were reaching Manaus, God laid it on their hearts to reach the states in NE Brazil. Through their outreach burden, vision, and efforts, numerous church-planting teams were sent out by Tabernacle Baptist Church, Manaus, Brazil, into the states and cities of the northeast. Churches that had been established in previous years were re-vitalized, and other church plants were established.



Paul Hatcher with members of a church plant in downtown Manaus, Brazil (2015)



Paul Hatcher and the workers of the New Tabernacle Mission of Boa Vista, Brazil (1983)

Just a few years ago, the Lord directed them to return to the States to provide care for their aging parents. They have faithfully fulfilled these services as well. They continue to serve and assist in their current home church in Clermont, FL.

### Paul & Wanda Hatcher

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## BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS News & Reports

(USPS 353-140)

is published monthly by Baptist Faith Missions  
3985 Boston Rd, Lexington KY 40514

Periodicals Postage Paid at Lexington KY  
and at additional mailing offices

### POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to  
Baptist Faith Missions News & Reports  
736 Berry Lane  
Lexington KY 40502

To receive this newsletter free of charge,  
please send your name and mailing address to:  
wainright50@gmail.com

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You can also contribute online at [www.bfmnow.org](http://www.bfmnow.org)  
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## PRAY FOR OUR COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS

Terry Adkins • Doug Armstrong  
Harold Draper • Philip DuBarry  
Benton Glover • Dan Hillard  
Kenny Hurst • Randy Jones  
Darrell Messer • David Mitchell  
Dave Parks • Mark Pyles  
David Pitman • George Sledd  
Sheridan Stanton • Jonathan Turner  
Steve Wainright

May God give them wisdom and discernment  
as they prayerfully make decisions.

# LEGACY GIFTS - PLEASE CONSIDER REMEMBERING OUR PENSIONERS IN YOUR WILL

Ever since our Traditional Pension Fund was established years ago, that Fund has been supplied by numerous generous gifts that have been given to BFM. Some have donated properties to BFM and the sales of those properties have been allocated to our Pension Fund. Others have bequeathed Legacy Gifts to BFM in their wills. These gifts have sustained the on-going

ministry of helping to support our Veteran Missionary Pensioners in their senior years after they are no longer physically able to continue their active on-the-field service. This is just another way you can perpetuate your partnership in missionary support for years to come. We pray you will consider helping our missionaries in this way also.

## MEET YOUR VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS



### ASA MARK & LUCIA BRATCHER

*Asa Mark & Lucia Bratcher served in  
partnership with BFM in Brazil for 22  
years.*

I served as a missionary in partnership with BFM for 22 years, but I have practically associated with BFM since I was 3 years old. That's when I arrived in the Amazon Valley with my godly parents on July 15, 1959.

I was ordained in May, 1977, and served as pastor of the 14th of December Baptist Church, Manaus Brasil, for the next 19 months. Then I served the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Manaus, for the next 7 months while missionaries Paul and Wanda Hatcher were in the States on furlough. Then for the next 3 years, I served as pastor of the Peniel Baptist Church, also in Manaus, Amazonas, Brasil. Then returned to the 14th of December Baptist Church for the next 18 ½ years, until December of 2000. In January 2001, I organized the Comunhão Baptist Church in Manaus, and remained as pastor for the next 12 years, until December of 2012.

On the last day of 2012, I arrived in Lexington KY to care for my Dad in his retirement after 53 ½ years in Brazil serving with BFM. I had the indescribable privilege of caring for him for the next 5 years and 3 months, until his glorious

### Asa Mark & Lucia Bratcher

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promotion to Heaven on March 23rd, 2018, just 6 hours short of his 91st Birthday. While we were making plans for a small birthday party, his Lord and Savior whom he served so faithfully for so long, had better plans. He had his 91st Birthday party in Heaven, organized by our Lord Jesus himself.

From April 2018 to March 2020, I continued to do mission work, spending 2 months in Manaus, and one here in Lexington. Since being stranded because of the Pandemic, both my wife and I have been working for the past year at the BAF Fan Company here in Lexington. This year Lucia and I will celebrate 41 years of marriage.

During these over 40 years of ministry in Brazil, Dad and I had the privilege and honor to organize or assist over 40 churches in 5 states. I also taught at the Amazonas Baptist Theological College and the Good News Bible College in Manaus and was a visiting professor at the Equatorial Baptist College in Belém in the state of Para.

Presently we reside in Lexington, KY. We appreciate all of BFM's support during this time, and even today, as we have been receiving the missionary's pension since January 2021. We thank God for every remembrance of you, and to God be all glory, great things He has done!

### UPDATE, 2023:

Lucia and I would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on recent happenings. Two years ago, I had to have cataract surgery on my left eye. I haven't had vision in my right eye since 2013, due to a botched surgery for retina dislocation in Brazil. The cataract surgery went well, but 2 weeks later the retina dislocated. After immediate surgery, I was able to begin a slow but complete recovery. But I no longer was able to work at the Big Fans Company in Lexington, where I had worked for about a year. Since then I have been unofficially retired. Lucia is presently working at the Preston Greens Senior Living center here in Lexington as a CNA (Senior Living Assistant).

I have not been able to return to Manaus yet to check on the churches but hopefully will be able to do so in July, our Lord willing and permitting.

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to all the Directors and each

supporter of BFM, for your daily prayers and continued support to the Veterans Missionaries Pensioners Fund and the Founders Day Offering. We faithfully receive a portion of those funds each month. Also in December we received a blessed Christmas gift, for which we were surprised and eternally grateful. May our Lord and Savior continue to bless each one of you as we all strive to be faithful!

Still in His Service,  
Asa and Lucia Bratcher



The Bratcher Family (Harold, Marie, Asa) - 1959



Asa Bratcher preached and baptized 7 at the Manancel Baptist Mission in a suburb of Manaus, Brazil (1992).



Asa Bratcher baptizes a new convert, a Brazilian druggist (1994)



Asa Mark & Lucia Bratcher with Harold Bratcher



# MEET YOUR VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS



SHERIDAN & ANITA STANTON

*Sheridan and Anita Stanton served in partnership with BFM in Peru for 32 years from April 1983 to October 2014.*

Anita and I were missionaries in Peru from April of 1983 until October of 2014 (32 years).

Here's a timeline of the major events:

- 1973 I graduated from High School and began studies at Lexington Baptist College.
- 1974, June 7th Anita and I were married.
- 1977 I graduated from LBC and our daughter Leah was born.
- 1978 I was ordained to the Gospel Ministry and began pastoring the Jordan Baptist Church of Sanford, FL. Also, our son, Joshua, was born.
- 1982 resigned the pastorate of Jordan Baptist to begin preparations to go as missionaries to Peru under the authority of Jordan Baptist and legally and financially aided by Baptist Faith Missions.
- 1983, April - we arrived in Iquitos, Peru. Leah was five years old, and Joshua was four when we arrived in the Northern Jungle town of Iquitos, where the Amazon River begins. They grew up in Peru and came back to the States for college. Leah and Joshua are both grown now, married with children, and live in the United States.
- We lived for seven years in two different jungle towns of Peru: Iquitos and Pucallpa. Those were our "formative" years as missionaries. The Lord used us to start our first church in Pucallpa and then assume the directorship of the Pucallpa Baptist School (begun by former Missionaries, Del and Ada Mayfield). Anita and I worked with the school for five years and the Lord blessed with an increase in enrollment from 250 students to 870 in our last year there.
- My wife, Anita, (a graduate of the University of Kentucky) spent years in Peru developing Sunday school curriculum for our churches. Many of her materials have

been used as Religion Curriculum in the Peruvian Public schools. She completed the curriculum series for children of all ages. She managed her home and took great care of her husband and children! She has always been a Proverbs 31 wife and mother.

• During the late eighties, the terrorist situation created an extremely difficult time for missionaries in Peru. We felt it best to move to the capital city of Lima at that time. There we stayed for the next seven years and were able to help start three more churches.

• It was also while in Lima I began traveling and teaching Bible classes in five different cities of Peru. This quickly turned into the Baptist Institute of Biblical Studies, which we continued until we left Peru in 2014.

• When our children returned to the USA to begin college, Anita and I felt it would be best to move and work out of the town of Huánuco, 6300 ft above sea level in the Andes Mountains. The main reason for moving there was because of the town's location in the center of Peru. The location allowed us to have our Institute classes there instead of me traveling all over the country. Because of the town's central location our pastors could travel to us. The first classes there were an immediate success in that they not only received the teaching but now Pastors had a venue for fellowship that they had never had before. This large-scale association significantly helped the unity among our pastors and preachers in Peru.

• Jungle, coast, or the Andes Mountains; everywhere we worked in Peru, we were always involved in church planting. The first church started was Iglesia Bautista Jordan in the jungle town of Pucallpa and the last church organized was the Iglesia Bautista Calvario in the Andean Mountain town of Huánuco. During those years we were directly involved in the planting of seven churches and indirectly with about thirty (working with Peruvian missionaries in starting new works).

• For most of those years I prepared course materials for the Bible Institute, pastored the mission we were involved with at the time. I also traveled around Peru to visit and encourage the churches and missions.

• 2008 I graduated with a master's degree in Biblical Counseling from Luther Rice Seminary

• 2012 I graduated with a PhD in Christian Counseling from the Louisiana Baptist University.

• Hosting mission teams became a ministry for us also. Some years we would host two or three teams a year. These mission teams were always a blessing to our work in Peru.

• People very often refer to missionaries' great sacrifices in leaving their homes in the USA, but we never considered our ministry in Peru as a sacrifice; that is until our grandkids came along. We are thankful for webcams, faster airplanes, and internet phones!

• In 2014 the Berea Baptist Church of Hiddenite, NC extended a call for us to come



Preachers and Pastors from the jungle town of Tingo Maria studying in the Bible Institute of Brother Sheridan Stanton (1997)



Brother Stanton conducting a service before stepping in a cold mountain stream to baptize several believers (1998)



Anita Stanton with just a few of the many Peruvian ladies she ministered to over the years (2013)



Sheridan Stanton visiting the church at Tamshiycau, Amazon River, Peru (1983)

and be their pastor. After thirty-two years (half my lifetime) we knew it was God's will for us to leave the mission field of Peru and come to North Carolina to continue the rest of our years in ministry here. The Lord has been very gracious to us here and we have grown to love the dear Saints of Berea Baptist very much.

• 2018 the directors of Baptist Faith Mission invited me to serve as a director of BFM. I enjoy the opportunity to serve in this capacity and in some small way, give back to the ministry of Baptist Faith Missions in helping local churches send and maintain their missionaries on the foreign field.

• Our view of life is that neither the United States nor Peru is our home, but as the Bible teaches us, we are only pilgrims in this world and citizens of a heavenly city. To God be the glory!



We are pleased to announce the completion of what has probably been a 10-year journey: making available to you for public access and viewing the digital copies of our BFM newsletter, The Mission Sheets, from the very first mimeographed offering report to the present.

For decades [indeed from 1942], the paper copies for the Mission Sheets had been faithfully kept, preserved, and stored in Brother Hafford Overbey's homes and garage. Several years ago, Bobby Creiglow and Darrell Messer took it upon themselves to go through all those old file cabinets and boxes and separate all the individual issues by the month and year and group them in chronological, successive order.

Then came the task of having them digitized. We searched for how it could be done and who could do it for us. After reaching several dead-end conversations with public vendors, the Lord brought us into contact with Doug Brook, a faithful servant in Emmanuel Baptist Church, Bellbrook OH where Darrell Messer pastors. Doug performed the service of scanning and digitizing each issue and storing them in order - and even transferred the files to our Dropbox. But they were still out of sight for public access and viewing.

So Lauren Pyles has now completed the transition of all those digital files to our website! We call it our Legacy Library.

Here is the link to that page: <https://www.bfmnow.org/legacy-library/> (or scan the QR code below). or you can go to our website <https://www.bfmnow.org/> and click on "Our History" in the top menu bar and go to "Legacy Library."

We pray that these records will continue to serve as a public witness and testimony to God's faithfulness to us and inspire us to continue to reach the ever-changing new generations of those who must hear the Gospel of God's salvation in Jesus Christ!

Many of the pictures shown in this issue came from our Legacy Library! Scan the QR Code to visit and view more.



Please **PRIORITIZE & COMMIT** to give as generously as you can for the support of our veteran/retired missionaries. (Remember you can give online at [BFMnow.org](https://www.bfmnow.org/))

**Sheridan & Anita Stanton**

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# MEET YOUR VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS



**BOBBY D. CREIGLOW**  
[Betty is with the Lord]

*Bobby and Betty Creiglow served in partnership with BFM in Brazil from May 1960 to May 1993. Bobby also served as Stateside Field Representative for BFM from 1998-2003.*

Here is Bobby's missionary service testimony: "We began our missionary service in Faith Baptist Church, Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil. This was our home base from 1961-1973. There were five other Baptist Churches in villages scattered up and down the various rivers, and only two had pastors. My service included visiting these churches on a regular basis holding evangelistic meetings, and many times conducting VBS. During the same time period, I was the founder of two new churches, along with another that was started, but not formally organized until some time after I left the area. I visited there several years later and preached to a thriving Church.

Here are some of the churches we either established or nurtured during our 33 years of missionary service:

## STATE OF ACRE

[Served among these churches already established before I arrived...]

- Faith of Cruzeiro do Sul
- Faith of Moura Piranga
- Faith of Japaim
- Faith of Barao
- Faith of Parana dos Mouras



A crowd at Colonia about 45 minutes walk from Japaim. "This is a good mission point and Brother Creiglow plans to spend some time here and maybe buy a building for services and a future church." (1962)

• Faith of Campo de Santana  
I established these two churches during my first term:

- Faith of Humaita (1962)
- Faith of Colonia de Japaim (1963)



Bro. Bobby Creiglow baptizing a young woman who was a charter member of the church at Colonia (1963)

## CUIABA/VARZEA GRANDE – STATE OF MATO GROSSO

In 1974, I moved from Acre to Cuiaba, Mato Grosso to build a building and a congregation for fellow BFM Missionary Richard Turner, while he was on his first furlough. When he returned from furlough in 1975, I turned a congregation of thirty members over to him. I continued working with him on the building that was finished one year later. He organized that congregation into the Boa Esperanca Baptist Church in 1978.

In late 1976 or early 1977 I moved just across the river from Cuiaba to the city of Varzea Grande, where after a reasonable search, I found there was no Baptist Church, in the city of 40,000 people, where I set up shop once again. A church building was built for the new church that was organized in October 1978. I served as pastor of the church until 1983, at which time the congregation numbered around 130, and was turned over to a Brazilian Pastor. Two boys, one three years old, and his brother, seven years old, that were in Betty's first Sunday School class, were years later called to preach and organized a daughter-church from the one I had organized.



Pastor Bobby Creiglow leaves the Faith Baptist Church and Pastor Candido assumes the pastorate. Varzea Grande, Brazil (1983).

## NOVO DIAMANTINA

Upon an invitation by a lady saved in the Boa Esperanca Baptist Church who had moved 130 miles away to a city called Diamantina, I agreed to start a church in an area on top of the mountain from the city.

I started this work by building the church house before ever having a preaching service. In fact, the first service was the inauguration of the new building. One year later, the Novo Diamantina Baptist Church was organized with 20+ members.

I am now a member of New Life Baptist Church, Lexington, KY, serving every way I can to assist our pastor, Steve Wainright, and our fellow members."

## UPDATE, 2023:

Bobby will be 97 years old on 25 July. He is under constant medical monitoring and treatments. As he recently told one of his converts from years ago in an email exchange, "I'm living every day now between the doctors and Heaven." He has been house-bound for the past year, too weak to be out and about except to be taken to his numerous doctors' appointments. Also, after suffering a fall in his home late last year, he was hospitalized, and it was discovered that he was acutely anemic. He received the first of what would be several subsequent blood transfusions to replenish his body's blood supply. He was referred to a hematologist and was subsequently diagnosed with failure of his bone marrow to replenish his red blood cells. After other treatments were tried to rebuild and maintain his blood counts, his hematologist prescribed him to receive an injection that acts as a 'booster' to his bone marrow and his blood's ability to carry oxygen to his body. He receives these injections weekly.

He is greatly encouraged also by numerous contacts that have been re-established over the recent years with friends, former church associates, and converts in Brazil who have 're-discovered' and re-connected with him through Facebook. Some of these converts and former associates in the churches he ministered in go back forty or more years ago. He is overjoyed to correspond with them again and hear them tell their stories of how they are continuing to serve the Lord largely to the credit of his ministry and influence on their lives. One of them in particular has gone from Brazil to Mozambique, Africa to serve the Lord there. It fills his heart and these later years of his life with much gladness. As he said during a recent visit, "God is so good!" Please continue to pray that God will strengthen and encourage him as he remains faithful to Christ to the end – that he will finish well.

## Bobby D. Creiglow

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## Listen:

Follow this link to listen to Bro. Creiglow teaching about "The Gift of Evangelism" in Sunday School, October 2021.

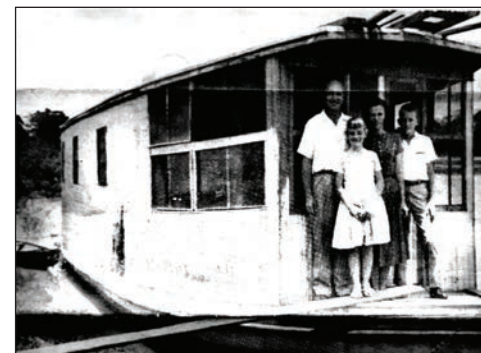
# BLASTS FROM THE PAST!



NEW MISSIONARY FOR BRAZIL  
The Creiglows - 1960



Bobby Creiglow studying Portuguese with Pessaeo as his teacher (1960)



The Creiglows on their houseboat (circa 1962)



Worshipping with people in Tatajuba. Mike Creiglow, front, played the accordion, which was a great help with the singing. (circa 1962)



# MEET YOUR VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS



**WANDA TURNER**  
[Richard is with the Lord]

*Richard and Wanda Turner served in partnership with BFM in Brazil from 1971-1987. Richard is now in Heaven with our Lord.*

They began their missionary ministry in Manaus, Brazil during 1971-1973. Richard supply-pastored in Quatorze de Dezembro Baptist Church while Harold and Marie Bratcher were in the States on furlough.

Then they continued their missionary service in Cuiaba, State of Mato Grosso, during the years 1973-1985. It was during this time that Richard started and planted Boa Esperanca Baptist Church. They started meeting in their home living room, then moved to their carport. They came to the States on furlough around this same time, and Bobby Creiglow

## Wanda Turner

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The Turner Family - 1983



Some of the children present for Bible club in Cuiaba, Brazil (1984)

came to continue the building of the church until they returned. A building was constructed shortly thereafter. Richard also ministered and preached to the lepers in their own church located in the leper colony.

After fulfilling their work in Cuiaba, Mato Grosso, Richard supply-pastored in a church in Manaus from 1986-1987.

Wanda bears testimony to the sustaining Grace of God and His faithfulness to them and to her through all of their seasons of joy and difficulties: "four major surgeries for me, much demonic opposition, dangers on land and in air – and thankful for all the prayers offered for us and God who has kept us!"

Wanda is enjoying living in Lynchburg, VA where she is striving to live a Christ-like life and continue to be a witness for Christ. Oh! and she also greatly enjoys her seven grand-kids and two great-grands!



Bobby Creiglow and family and members of Richard Turner's church met the Turners at the airport in Cuiaba Mato Grosso, Brazil upon their arrival back in Brazil after furlough. This is a picture of Bobby Creiglow's bus and those present to greet the Turners. (1981)



The people on ramp and porch of "Richard Turner Building". Cuiaba, Brazil came to see Bobby Creiglow baptize. Beautiful building finished, with lot to build house on in rear of church building. (1977)



"The John Hatchers, the Bruce Lunsfords and the Harold Bratchers. Three missionary families, sixteen of them in all, meet in Miami, Florida. The Lunsfords have just arrived from Brazil and the Hatchers and Bratchers just ready to leave for Brazil."



LEGACY  
LIBRARY

View  
hundreds  
more pictures  
like these in our  
Legacy Library.

See details on page 3.



Richard Turner in the baptistry of his new church building in Cuiaba, Brazil, ready to baptize two (1978)



# VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS OFFERING

**VETERAN** (or **FOUNDERS DAY OFFERING**)  
 continued from page 8

**Currently, we have six (6) pensioners, and every month, there is a disbursement of \$11,590.00 to fund their service pensions. That amount, even on a good month, is double the amount of growth we receive on the investment base in that account.**

And, as a side note here – you know what a hit investment accounts have taken over the course of last year, **and that decline/loss activity only makes our attention and generosity toward our Veteran Missionaries Pensioners all the more urgent.**

Here is another way we are going to expand our participation in this **Veteran Missionaries Pensioners Offering**. We will continue to ask you to give your most generous gifts in the memory of our founders: H. H. Overbey and Z. E. Clark.

But, we want to expand it further by encouraging you to give gifts both:

- **"In Memory Of..."** someone who is now with the Lord ... and
- **"In Honor Of..."** someone who may still be living, but whose love and service for BFM you would like to honor. It can be any faithful servant of the Lord.

For example: you could give your most generous gift **"In Memory Of..."**

- ▶ Hafford Overbey and Z. E. Clark
- ▶ a former BFM missionary who is now with the Lord
- ▶ a former Director of BFM who is now with the Lord
- ▶ a family member, loved one, or friend who is now with the Lord

Or, you could give your most generous gift **"In Honor Of..."**

- ▶ a current BFM Veteran Missionary Pensioner
- ▶ a current missionary
- ▶ a current Director, pastor, or other servant of the Lord whom you wish to honor

All of these gifts will be allocated to and deposited in the **Veteran Missionaries Pensioners Fund** and will be used to continue to support them in their golden years.

So, who are you thinking of right now – either with the Lord or still serving the Lord – whom you would like to memorialize or honor with an offering that will be used to fund the service pensions of our Veteran Missionaries Pensioners?

Pray about and prepare your most generous offering.

You can contribute your Veteran Missionaries Pensioners Offering via:

- our online website portal [just click on the **"GIVE"** button at the top right at [www.bfmnow.org](http://www.bfmnow.org)]
- your church's collective offering [if your church is receiving one]
- USPS mail to Pastor George Sledd, Treasurer | P. O. Box 471280 | Lake Monroe FL 32747-1280

**And, would you prayerfully consider making your gift toward our Pensioners recurring?**  
**Our disbursements of \$11,590 toward supplying their modest service pensions recur every month!**

And, as always, thank you for giving to the Lord!

- Your BFM Directors

**"Our missionary family has not been large, but their service has been long and their faithfulness has been great."**

**- Jim Orrick, 2014 -**



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## MEET YOUR VMPS



**HAROLD AND URSULA DRAPER**

*Harold and Ursula Draper served in partnership with BFM for 32½ years from July 1977 – December 2009.*

Harold describes it this way:

"We served in Cuiaba, State of Mato Grosso from 1977-1979 in the Boa Esperanca Baptist Church. We then went to Sao Luis, State of Maranhao for 8 years from 1980-1988. Then, back to Mato Grosso for 21 years from 1988-2009. Our ministry was in church planting, Bible teaching, and construction of church buildings. Here are some of the churches we either started or nurtured:

In the State of Maranhao: Cruzeiro do Anil Baptist Church; Anajatuba Baptist Church; First Baptist Church, Sao Mateus.

In the State of Mato Grosso: Boa Esperanca Baptist Church; Primavera do Leste Baptist Church; Novo Diamantina Baptist Church; Altos do Coxipo Baptist Church; Jardim do Fortaleza Baptist Church; Characa dos Pinheiros Baptist Church.

We started or helped start at least 10 Baptist churches and preached in many public places during our time in Brazil. Most of these works are still doing well. Since we have left Brazil, two of them have merged and David Hatcher has assisted greatly with in the Novo Diamantina church.

We are presently pastoring Faith Baptist Church in Paducah, KY. We are both 80 years old now and slowing down just a little. We're ready to go to Glory when the Master calls."

### Harold & Ursula Draper

P. O. Box 395 / Bardwell, KY 42023

270-628-9517 / home | 270-562-0828 / cell  
hmdubdbr@yahoo.com



Sunday Morning Crowd at Chacara Dos Pinheiros, Cuiaba, Brazil (1994)



Harold Draper with three baptized from mission in Anil, Sao Luis, Brazil (1984)

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"People who do not know the Lord ask why in the world we waste our lives as missionaries. They forget that they too are expending their lives, and when the bubble has burst, they will have nothing of eternal significance to show for the years they have wasted."

-Nate Saint

"If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him."

-C.T. Studd

"God, hold us to that which drew us first, when the Cross was the attraction, and we wanted nothing else."

-Amy Carmichael

### Follow BFM on Social Media



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## WAYS TO GIVE



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### Mail a Check



All offerings should be addressed to:

**BFM, c/o George Sledd**  
**P.O. Box 471280**  
**Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1280**

If your offering is for a specific missionary or project, it should be so designated.

The greatest need each month is for the Missionary Support Fund.





# BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

## NEWS & REPORTS

Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries  
to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world

[www.bfmnow.org](http://www.bfmnow.org)



June 2023 Issue

# ONLINE EDITION

## WAYS TO PRAY FOR YOUR MISSIONARIES

"Brethren, PRAY FOR US!" -1 Thessalonians 5:25  
(adapted from SEND International)

### **SPIRITUAL LIFE** *Sunday*

Consistent times of prayer and learning from Scripture  
Meaningful worship and fellowship times  
Growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ  
Commitment to the purpose of their ministry

### **MINISTRY** *Monday*

A work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of unbelievers  
Boldness to share Jesus  
Evangelistic contacts & ministry opportunities  
Multiplication and health of the churches  
Wisdom in the use of time, resources, & energy

### **FAMILY** *Tuesday*

Strong marriage  
Needs of children  
Support from family at home  
An example for believers and unbelievers

### **RELATIONSHIPS** *Wednesday*

Genuine interpersonal relationships  
Willingness to listen  
Wisdom to confront in a loving way  
Accountability

### **PLACE OF SERVICE** *Thursday*

Political and economic situation  
Growth of God's Kingdom  
Visas and continued residency  
Safety

### **ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE** *Friday*

Diligence in life-long language study  
Friends to help with language and culture  
Willingness to engage with people even when  
language is weak  
Cultural sensitivity

### **PHYSICAL NEEDS** *Saturday*

Health, safety, medical care  
Emotional stability  
Housing, schooling, transportation  
Contentment in all things

**You can also read all the latest  
letters from our missionaries  
on our FaithWorks Blog!**

[www.bfmnow.org/faithworks-blog](http://www.bfmnow.org/faithworks-blog)

## JUNE IS VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS OFFERING MONTH [or formerly known as FOUNDERS MONTH OFFERING]

Please give as generously as you can for the continuing support of our Veteran Missionaries Pensioners

### Contribute to the 2023 Veteran Missionaries Pensioners Offering

*"Now also when I am old and grayheaded,  
O God, do not forsake me, until I declare  
Your strength to this generation,  
Your power to everyone who is to come."  
Psalm 71:18*

June is the month for appealing for our **Veteran Missionaries Pensioners Offering**. And, we are fervently appealing to you on their behalf. Please read this appeal with an open heart, asking God how he wants you to give – and to give you something to give.

**What is the Veteran Missionaries Pensioners Offering?** That name may be a little new and unfamiliar to you, but it is the same offering that has before been called **Founders Month Offering**. They are two names for the same offering and are used for the same purpose. We will continue to link this offering to the **Founders Month Offering** name, but we do want to make our **Veteran Missionaries Pensioners Offering** more prominent.

**Here's why: this offering is allocated to providing service pensions for our Veteran Missionaries Pensioners.** We have a number of Veteran Missionaries who have given a substantial portion of their lives in missionary service for Christ in partnership with BFM. BFM gives them a modest service pension as a token of our love and gratitude for their service.

However, their pensions are NOT supplied from the monthly Missionary Support Fund that supplies the needs of our current active missionaries. The pensions for the **Veteran Missionaries Pensioners** are funded from a separate investment account that has been established for that sole purpose. And, all the funds that are allocated and deposited into that **Veteran Missionaries Pension Fund** are disbursed for that purpose.

 **VETERAN**  
continued on page 6

## Baptist Faith Missions Veteran Missionaries Receiving Pensions

Missionaries	Where they served	Where are they now?
Asa Mark & Lucia Bratcher	Brazil	They live in Lexington, KY.
Bobby & Betty Creiglow	Brazil	Betty is in Heaven. Bobby lives in Lexington, KY
Harold & Ursula Draper	Brazil	They live in Bardwell, KY
Paul & Wanda Hatcher	Brazil	They live in Clermont, FL
Sheridan & Anita Stanton	Peru	They live in Taylorsville, NC
Richard & Wanda Turner	Brazil	Richard is in Heaven. Wanda lives in Forest, VA



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